

BULLETIN
American
Association of Commerce and Trade.
Corporation.

Founded in 1903 by American citizens
for the promotion of Commerce and Trade.

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BERLIN, GERMANY

NOVEMBER 1914

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American
Association of Commerce and Trade
FOUNDED 1903, OFFICES EQUITABLE BUILDING, FRIEDRICHSTR. 59/60.

BULLETIN

NOVEMBER 1914



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OF COMMERCE AND TRADE IN BERLIN

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**LATEST UNITED STATES REAPPRAISEMENTS
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- 25016—Silks.**—From Otto Boessneck & Co., Glauchau.
019—Mfr. Metal—From Fichtel & Sachs, Schweinfurt.
028—Leather Cases, etc.—From Philipp Deutsch, Frankfort.
030—Cameras, etc.—From I C A, Dresden.
031—Cameras, etc.—From I C A, Dresden.
033—Toys.—From F. W. Müller jr., Berlin.
034—Cotton Yarn.—From P. Kunfermann, Krefeld.
035—Bronze Powder.—From Metallpapier-Bronzefarben-Blatt-
[metallwerke, Munich.]
047—Artificial Silk Fabrics.—From Gustav Jacobiny, Crefeld.
048—Artificial Silk Fabrics.—From Gebr. Schaub, Viersen.
049—Artificial Silk Fabrics.—From Gebr. Schaub, Viersen.
050—Demijohns.—From Gebrüder Stoevesandt, Rinteln.
052—Cotton Velvet.—From M. Maugers & Söhne, Berlin.
056—Beaded Articles.—From Emil Hein, Eibenstock.
063—Music Wire.—From Felten & Guilleaume Carlswerke A.-G.,
[Mülheim.]
066—Mfr. Flax.—From Regenhat & Raymann, Freiwalde.
067—Enameled Ware.—From Eisenhütte Silesia, Berlin.
068—Aluminum Ware.—From Aluminum Friedenberg, Berlin.
071—Enameled Ware.—From E. F. Beeger, Schwarzenberg.
072—Enameled Ware, etc.—From Emaillierwerke Lauter and
[Ernst A. Hecker, Berlin.]
073—Blank Books.—From Kirchner & Co., Barmen.
081—Manufactured Cotton.—From Heinrich Hoh, Peterswalden.
084—Decorated China.—From Heinrich Winterling, Berlin.
085—Decorated Earthenware.—From Villeroy & Boch, Berlin.
092—Ink.—From Siegwerk Chem. Laboratorium, Siegburg.
095—Cutlery.—From Gebr. Schmachtenberg, Solingen.
109—Toys.—From Ernst Paul Lehmann, Brandenburg.
112—Oxygen Cylinders.—From Mannesmannröhren-Werke,
[Düsseldorf.]
113—Paper.—From Brangs & Heinrich, Solingen.
114—Paper.—From Brangs & Heinrich, Solingen.
117—White China.—From Galluba & Hoffmann, Berlin.
121—Bronze Powder.—From Georg Schorr & Co., Nürnberg.
123—Nitrate of Yttrium.—From Dr. O. Knofer & Co., Plötzensee.
137—Toys—From Julius Rudert, Hamburg.
138—Slate Pencils.—From Erstc Thur Griffahl, Sonneberg.
144—Manufactured Metal.—From Herm. Oschatz, Gisperslisen.
148—Decorated China.—From Heinrich Winterling, Berlin.



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American
Association of Commerce and Trade
FOUNDED 1903, OFFICES EQUITABLE BUILDING, FRIEDRICHSTR. 59/60.

BULLETIN

ISSUED MONTHLY

VOL XII.

BERLIN, NOVEMBER, 1914.

No. 6.

THE TWELFTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Members are informed that the Twelfth Annual Meeting for the election of Officers and Directors will be held Saturday Evening November 28, 1914 at eight o'clock sharp at the rooms of the Association Friedrichstrasse 59—60. A full attendance is requested. A buffet lunch will be provided.

The following gentlemen have been nominated by the Nominating Committee:

For President	I. Wolf, jr.
First Vice-President	W. A. Derrick
Second Vice-President	M. C. McCann
Third Vice-President	L. Ph. v. Witzleben
Treasurer	Richard Siering

Directors for Two Years:

Maximilian Mintz
G. H. Wark
Dr. G. A. Kubler
Paul Koning
Justizrat Dr. Victor Schneider.

FOREIGN SALES AND THE WAR.

New York, Sept. 21, 1914.—Prior to the European war orders for merchandise were placed abroad for shipments to New York during the month of August. Between sellers and buyers there is no dispute as to the fact that shipments cannot be made due to conditions arising out of the European war, but questions arising are:

1. Has the seller the privilege to cancel orders placed, and, if so, is seller required to give notice of cancellation?
2. Has the buyer the privilege to cancel order placed, and, if so is the buyer required to give notice of cancellation?
3. Has the seller, without notification of any kind, the option of shipping the orders after the war is over although the time of shipment, according to contract, has expired, or, to give notice after the war is over that the orders have been cancelled? Orders placed abroad prior to the war and that cannot be shipped during contract time on account of the war. Do such orders become automatically cancelled?

DAILY SUBSCRIBER.

Reply.—1. There is nothing in our correspondent's statement of this case to show that the seller has a right to cancel these orders. If he have such right he would probably be required to give notice of cancellation, though we cannot be quite sure of that unless we know what there is in the contract giving him a right to cancel in any event.

2. The buyer, so far as we are informed, has no right to cancel the order.

3. The time of shipment is fixed in this case. It is the time named in the contract, if any; if no time is therein named, then shipment is to be made in a reasonable time. If, for any reason (whether through the fault of the seller or not) shipment be not made in a reasonable time, the contract is at end. Wars have been known to last for 8 years and for 30 years; and a contract does not remain in abeyance, till the war is over. A contract must be performed at the proper time or acceptance of performance cannot be compelled.

JOURNAL OF COMMERCE.

GREAT BRITAIN AND CONTRABAND.

We quote the following timely remarks from Bradstreet's:

Some discussion having arisen respecting the attitude of Great Britain in regard to shipments of foodstuffs from the United States to Holland, the British ambassador at Washington has authorized the announcement that his government intends to revise its declaration regarding contraband. In the meantime, an understanding has been reached with the State Department under which goods, such as foodstuffs, consigned to Holland in neutral vessels, and in respect to which the Netherlands government has placed an embargo on exportations, will not be treated as

contraband. It is understood that this arrangement is in part the result of negotiations between the British government and that of the Netherlands, in accordance with which supplies intended for the German armies will not be permitted to pass the Dutch border. A different course has been followed by the British government in relation to some shipments of copper, which, though shipped from the United States to Holland, have been detained in the belief that they were intended for a large armament concern in Germany. The full value of the cargoes has, however, been remitted to the American shippers. A late British proclamation adds to the list of articles intended to be treated as conditional contraband, unwrought copper, lead (pig, sheet or pipe), glycerin, ferrochrome, hoematite and magnetic iron ore, rubber and hides and skins, raw or rough, but not including dressed leather. It is reported that plans are under way to arrange for the importation from Germany in American vessels of sugar-beet seed, dyestuffs and chemicals needed in American industries.

WILL GERMANY LOSE SHIPS AS WAR PRIZES?

The war's effect on the maritime standing of the warring powers depends largely on the attitude of the prize courts of England and Germany.

The Englisch Prize Court, sitting at London under the guidance of Sir Samuel Evans, has shown a disposition to refrain from condemning merchant vessels seized in British harbors at the outbreak of hostilities. It will be recalled that on August 4, when England notified Germany that a state of war was in effect Sir Edward Grey sent telegrams to both Berlin and Vienna asking whether Germany and Austria would give consent to a period of grace in which to allow the shipping of the three nations to depart from enemy ports, and that they be given passes providing for their voyage unmolested to a home port.

Austria entered into such an arrangement with England, with the result that ships flying the Austrian flag which were seized by England were later released and allowed to proceed to Austrian ports. Germany, however, did not reply to England's inquiry and her failure to do so has caused much confusion in the administration of prize court procedure.

Sir Samuel Evans, in the first case which came before him, that of the sailing vessel Chile, which was seized in the harbor of Cardiff—decided that in view of Germany's failure to enter into an arrangement for the release of British vessels held under similar circumstances to the Chile, the Chile properly belonged to the Crown, but that he would not condemn the vessel and would issue an order for its detention, final adjudication pending the receipt of official advices as to Germany's disposition of British vessels which were seized in German ports.

The question arises, would it be more profitable for Germany to relinquish all future claim on the 894 German vessels held by

England, hoping that the Britisch vessels now German prizes will more than compensate the nation at large. For a time it was believed that Germany held almost 1000 British vessels in Hamburg and Bremen, but this theory is dispelled by the fact that not more than 4000 foreign vessels entered either Hamburg or Bremen during the course of a year.

It is therefore believed that should England continue to show a disposition to maintain its attitude to release German vessels seized contrary to Article II of The Hague Conference, which is binding on both Germany and England, Germany will at some later time indicate that it will release all British mercantile vessels now held in its ports.

In reference to the release of neutral cargo in German steamers which have been captured or seized, England has already indicated that it would facilitate the release of such cargo. A special commission was appointed to deal with cargoes of grain consigned to Germany in British ships which were diverted to English ports. These cargoes are being sold in England and the American shippers are being paid.

The naval prize court at London has freed shipments of various commodities on German steamers which are still awaiting hearing by the prize court. The goat skins on the German steamer Schneefels, held at Gibraltar, have been released, while word was received this week that a shipment of brewers' grains on the steamer Prinz Adalbert, which is held by England at London, was also released.

It is apparent that the administration of prize court procedure will occupy the attention of English authorities for many years to come. The laws affecting the disposition of prizes of war have never been tested. Since the Crimean war England has not had a prize court in session, and while the rules governing the procedure were revised a short time before the outbreak of hostilities, Sir Samuel Evans, president of the prize court, has indicated that the decisions now being handed down, being of significant importance, must necessarily be carefully considered.

The question of payment of freight, dock dues for vessels taken into ports after being captured, the payment of charges on vessels which were seized in British ports and a host of other important questions will tax the prize court, and each decision will form a precedent to which admiralty lawyers the world over will give close attention.

Journal of Commerce, New York.

BOYCOTT OF AMERICAN GOODS IN GERMANY.

It having been brought to the attention of our Association that there was a disposition to boycott American goods in Germany, we immediately took steps to investigate this matter, and communicated with the press as well as various Chambers of Commerce and other commercial organizations in Germany. We are, however, pleased to say that we received very favorable

replies from the various bodies in the following cities: Berlin, Freiburg i. B., Duisburg, Leipzig, Zittau, Wiesbaden, Regensburg, Bonn, Stuttgart and Chemnitz, and quote herewith the replies received from the Handelskammern Frankfurt a. M. and Chemnitz, and also the Potsdamer Handelskammer in Berlin:

Handelskammer
zu Frankfurt a. M.

(Translations)

October 23, 1914.

Referring to the circular recently received from you regarding boycott of American products, we would say that no such tendency has come to our notice, and we do not believe that the idea of boycotting American goods would meet with any support in German business circles...

We can assure you, moreover, that Germany's commerce and trade and we especially, lay great stress upon developing and strengthening the trade relations with your country. We would, therefore, warmly welcome any efforts on your part to bring to the attention of your countrymen and especially the press, the friendly feeling of the German nation towards them. In our opinion, a great deal could be achieved towards this end, if through your influence fairer judgment would be passed upon Germany by the American People, thus paving the way for the conviction that all rumours pertaining to unfriendly action on the part of Germany towards America, are to be received with distrust and must be considered as malevolent lies on the part of our enemies.

(Signature.)

Handelskammer
zu Chemnitz.

October 14, 1914.

In answer to the circular received to day from you concerning boycott of American products, we would say that in our district there is no thought of boycotting American goods and that we have not observed any such tendency among the trade or the public of this district. On the contrary, the connections existing here with the United States are especially vigorous and close, and will continue to be so.

(Signature.)

Potsdamer Handelskammer,
Sitz Berlin.

Oktober 13, 1914.

We thank you for sending us your circular "Boycott of American Products" and beg to inform you that we are quite in sympathy with the sentiments expressed therein, and that we would be happy if the present war would not produce any disturbing influence on the commercial relations between your and our country. Indeed, there is absolutely no reason for such, as the trade of both countries is dependent upon mutual exchange.

There can be no question as to boycotting products of neutral countries especially the United States, and this never was the case.

(Signature.)

The letters from the other Chambers of Commerce were without exception to the same effect.

THE AMERICAN BUSINESS WORLD AND PRESENT CONDITIONS IN GERMANY.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the American Association of Commerce and Trade it was resolved to send the Secretary of the Association, Mr. George S. Atwood, to the United States, to enlighten American business circles as to the actual commercial and economical conditions now prevailing in Germany. Mr. Atwood will visit most of the largest commercial and industrial centres in the United States and will lecture before the members of large commercial corporations in each city, such as the Chamber of Commerce of the United States in Washington, the National Association of Manufacturers in New York, etc.

Mr. Atwood will lay special stress upon giving a clear impression of Germany's standing; his statements will be based upon official statistics treating with Germany's harvest, the meat supply, present market prices, the natural resources of the country, and the production in the various branches of industry, the standing of the Reichsbank, the Kriegs-Kreditbank and the German War Loan. He will have his lectures published by the Press in each city.

LETTERS TO AMERICA.

Letters written in English or German can be handed in at the Prüfungsstelle, Postamt 17, Schlesischer Bahnhof, accompanied with a certificate of the Berliner Handelskammer. All letters must be presented at the Prüfungsstelle open, and after examination by the officer in charge can be closed in the presence of the latter, and will be despatched from there to their destination by the shortest route. Mail written in English should be handed in on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays; German letters every day from $\frac{1}{2}$ past nine to 1 o'clock and from $\frac{1}{2}$ past 4 to 7 o'clock.

WAR RISK INSURANCE.

[Public. No. 193, 63d Congress—S. 6357.]

AN ACT To authorize the establishment of a Bureau of War Risk Insurance in the Treasury Department.

Whereas the foreign commerce of the United States is now greatly impeded and endangered through the absence of adequate facilities for the insurance of American vessels and their cargoes against the risks of war; and

Whereas it is deemed necessary and expedient that the United States shall temporarily provide for the export shipping trade of the United States adequate facilities for the insurance of its commerce against the risks of war: Therefore

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there is established in the Treasury Department a bureau to be known as the Bureau of War Risk Insurance, the director of which shall be entitled to a salary at the rate of \$ 5,000 per annum.

SEC. 2. That the said Bureau of War Risk Insurance, subject to the general direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, shall, as soon as practicable, make provisions for the insurance by the United States of American vessels, their freight and passage moneys, and cargoes shipped or to be shipped therein, against loss or damage by the risks of war, whenever it shall appear to the Secretary that American vessels, shippers, or importers in American vessels are unable in any trade to secure adequate war risk insurance on reasonable terms.

SEC. 3. That the Bureau of War Risk Insurance, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, is hereby authorized to adopt and publish a form of war risk policy, and to fix reasonable rates of premium for the insurance of American vessels, their freight and passage moneys and cargoes against war risks, which rates shall be subject to such change, to each port and for each class, as the Secretary shall find may be required by the circumstances. The proceeds of the aforesaid premiums when received shall be covered into the Treasury of the United States.

SEC. 4. That the Bureau of War Risk Insurance, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, shall have power to make any and all rules and regulations necessary for carrying out the purposes of this Act.

SEC. 5. That the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to establish an advisory board, to consist of three members skilled in the practices of war risk insurance, for the purpose of assisting the Bureau of War Risk Insurance in fixing rates of premium and in adjustment of claims for losses, and generally in carrying out the purposes of this Act; the compensation of the members of said board to be determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, but not to exceed \$ 25 a day each, while actually employed. In the event of disagreement as to the claim for losses, or amount thereof, between the said bureau and the parties to such contract of insurance, an action on the claim may be brought against the United States in the District Court of the United States, sitting in admiralty, in the district in which the claimant or his agent may reside.

SEC. 6. That the Director of the Bureau of War Risk Insurance, upon the adjustment of any claims for losses in respect of which no action shall have been begun, shall, on approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, promptly pay such claim for losses

to the party in interest; and the Secretary of the Treasury is directed to make provision for the speedy adjustment of claims for losses and also for the prompt notification of parties in interest of the decisions of the bureau on their claims.

SEC. 7. That for the purpose of paying losses accruing under the provisions of this Act there is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury of the United States not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$ 5,000,000.

SEC. 8. That there is hereby appropriated, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the establishment and maintenance of the Bureau of War Risk Insurance, including the payment of salaries herein authorized and other personal services in the District of Columbia, out of any money in the Treasury of the United States not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$ 100,000.

SEC. 9. That the President is authorized, whenever, in his judgment, the necessity of further war insurance by the United States shall have ceased to exist, to suspend the operations of this Act in so far as it authorizes insurance by the United States against loss or damage by risks of war, which suspension shall be made, at any event, within two years after the passage of this Act, but shall not affect any insurance outstanding at the time or any claims pending adjustment. For the purpose of the final adjustment of any such outstanding insurance or claims, the Bureau of War Risk Insurance may, in the discretion of the President, be continued in existence a further period not exceeding one year.

SEC. 10. That a detailed statement of all expenditures under this Act and of all receipts hereunder shall be submitted to Congress at the beginning of each regular session.

SEC. 11. That this Act shall take effect from and after its passage.

Approved, September 2, 1914.

FINANCIAL CONDITIONS.

The committee having charge of the sterling exchange operations for the gold pool delivered demand bills yesterday morning on Monday's applications at $4.95\frac{1}{4}$. This compares with $4.96\frac{1}{4}$, the rate at which applications were filled on Saturday. This suggests substantial progress, although no definite idea is yet available as to the amount of exchange that the committee has thus far made available. The market for foreign exchange yesterday aside from the pool operations was firm, which may be attributed to the covering of short commitments by operators who had been counting upon a lower market to promptly follow the pool's offerings. The committee is using its best endeavors to prevent undue advantage being taken by speculators of the pool's operations. It is for this purpose that the hour for receiving applications has been fixed for 3:30 P. M. and at 10 A. M. the

following morning for allotments. Between these intervals there is obviously very slight opportunity for large speculative commitments of foreign exchange to be created. Advices from London yesterday stated that £ 1,000,000 in New York Central notes was being offered on a 6½ per cent basis. These presumably are part of the issue of such notes recently offered here and are probably sufficient to meet the maturities that the New York Central lines must meet in London at the present time.

The gold pool will continue to offer exchange, it is understood, in sufficient volume to gradually force a reduction of sterling exchange rates towards a point that would have existed if conditions were normal. It is not the intention, however, to force rates down in an arbitrary manner on a greater scale than the situation will bear. Aside from the operations of the pool a much more comfortable and cheerful feeling seems to be developing in foreign exchange circles. Some of the large London banks and bankers have cabled their correspondents here that they were prepared to extend a moderate volume of credit in the usual form. This is a development in the right direction, and now that it has once started will necessarily make progress from day to day. An additional instalment of gold for New York city obligations that are maturing abroad is due to-morrow. This sum will presumably be forwarded to Ottawa in the form of gold if it is not paid by the members of the syndicate in the form of exchange on London.

Journal of Commerce, New York.

NO LIMIT ON TRADE WITH BELLIGERENTS.

Washington, October 14.

Commercial transactions between the belligerent governments of Europe and private citizens of the United States in no way affect the neutrality of this country, even if arms and ammunition are involved, according to a statement issued to-day by Robert Lansing, acting Secretary of State. Mr. Lansing says that he was prompted to make the statement by numerous inquiries and complaints indicating a widespread impression that American business men cannot sell war supplies to the belligerents without committing an unneutral act.

"In the first place," the statement adds, "it should be understood that, generally speaking, a citizen of the United States can sell to a belligerent government or its agent any article of commerce which he pleases. He is not prohibited from doing this by any rule of international law, by any treaty publication or by any statute of the United States. It makes no difference whether the articles sold are exclusively for war purposes, such as firearms, explosives, etc., or are foodstuffs, clothing, horses, etc., for the use of the army or navy of the belligerent."

"Furthermore, a neutral government is not compelled by international law, by treaty or by statute to prevent those sales

to a belligerent. Such sales, therefore, by American citizens do not in the least affect the neutrality of the United States.

"It is true that such articles as those mentioned are considered contraband and are, outside the territorial jurisdiction of a neutral nation, subject to seizure by an enemy of the purchasing government, but it is the enemy's duty to prevent the articles reaching their destination, not the duty of the nation whose citizens have sold them. If the enemy of the purchasing nation happens for the time to be unable to do this that is for him one of the misfortunes of war; the inability, however, imposes on the neutral government no obligation to prevent the sale.

"Neither the President nor any executive department of the Government possesses the legal authority to interfere in any way with trade between the people of this country and the territory of a belligerent. There is no act of Congress conferring such authority or prohibiting traffic of this sort with European nations, although in the case of neighboring American republics Congress has given the President power to proclaim an embargo on arms and ammunition, when in his judgment it would tend to prevent civil strife.

"For the Government of the United States itself to sell to a belligerent nation would be an unneutral act, but for a private individual to sell to a belligerent any product of the United States is neither unlawful nor unnatural, nor within the power of the Executive to prevent or control.

"The foregoing remarks, however, do not apply to the outfitting or furnishing of vessels in American ports or of military expeditions on American soil in aid of a belligerent. These acts are prohibited by the neutrality laws of the United States."

TO PROTEST AGAINST NEW INVOICE RULES.

The American Importers' Association, U. S. A., Inc., at a meeting held yesterday afternoon decided to send a committee to Washington for the purpose of requesting the Treasury Department to modify its rules governing President Wilson's executive order amending the consular regulations respecting the information that is to be furnished regarding goods forwarded here on the consignment form of invoice. The Treasury rules are to become effective on October 31.

Thaddeus S. Sharretts, counsel of the association, expressed the opinion that President Wilson, in issuing the executive order, had evidently been misinformed as to the facts, and that he thought it incumbent upon the importers to explain the situation to Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Peters, with the view of having him promulgate regulations that would relieve the importers of the burdens placed upon them as a result of the interpretation that has been made of the following language of the statute in

reference to the declaration to be filed by the shipper abroad at the time of shipment (paragraph D, section III, of the 1918 tariff act):

"That it [the declaration] contains, if the merchandise was obtained by purchase, or agreement for purchase, a true and full statement of the time when, the place where, the person from whom the same was purchased, or agreed to be purchased."

The consular regulations in paragraph 664 change this provision, according to Mr. Sharreets. "Instead of requiring the declaration that is specified and described in the statute with regard to merchandise obtained by purchase or agreement for purchase," he said, "the proposed regulation requires it in the case of merchandise shipped in pursuance of a purchase or an agreement of purchase. The two situations are not the same. Let us assume that 'A' is located in the United States and has various foreign accounts. He is the agent for certain foreign manufacturers and receives a commission on sales made by him in the United States. He sends salesmen through the country and they receive orders from customers all over the United States. The foreign manufacturers consign goods every week to 'A' so that he can fill the orders received by him from his numerous customers, both wholesale and retail. Ordinarily the customers do not know who the manufacturers are, and on the other hand the manufacturers do not know who their factor's customers are. When these goods are shipped from abroad they will not have been obtained by purchase or agreement for purchase. When 'A' receives the goods in the United States he obtains them on consignment. He does not obtain them by purchase or agreement for purchase. In fact, such goods are not obtained by purchase or agreement for purchase until the purchaser or party agreeing to purchase so obtains them.

"In the above case 'A' is what is known as a 'factor.' He is entrusted with the possession, disposal and control of the merchandise and may sell it in his own name and bind the principal. The regulations in paragraph 664 seem to confuse the agent or factor of the foreign seller with a 'broker.' The functions of the two are not the same. The broker is, strictly speaking, the intermediate negotiator between the seller and purchaser. He sells in the name of his principal. He does not have possession, disposal or control of the merchandise. The factor, on the contrary, sells in his own name and has possession, disposal and control of the merchandise."

Following the discussion of the Treasury ruling the proposed by-laws of the association were read. They were adopted with the understanding that the organization committee was to make a few minor changes in language.

Henry D. Cooper, president of the association, acted as chairman of the meeting.

THE AMERICAN RELIEF KITCHEN.

The Relief Kitchen which we reported in our Bulletin of October was formally opened on October 19th 1914.

Herr Robert Guthmann, a leading citizen of Berlin, kindly placed at our disposal free of charge the "Villa" at Schlesische Strasse No. 26 (situated in the laboring districts of the city) fitted with large spacious rooms, well ventilated, with large modern kitchen and modern equipments, especially suited for the purpose.

The object of this "Relief Kitchen" is to give a wholesome meal daily to as many distressed persons as the fund will permit.

The food is specially prepared by the "Volks-Kaffee- und Speise-Hallen-Gesellschaft" of Berlin, an organization founded in 1890 for the purpose of supplying food to the poorer classes. The menu is arranged daily, containing the best nourishment based on scientific research.

The "Nationaler Frauendienst", a charitable organization, which makes a thorough investigation has kindly consented to distribute the Meal Tickets, thereby putting us in a position to give support and aid where it is most needed.

About one hundred ladies of the American Colony have volunteered to serve the meals. They are divided into Committees of ten, each Committee serving weekly.

The Patrons of the American Relief Kitchen are:

His Excellency the Honorable James W. Gerard, American Ambassador, and Mrs. Gerard;
Consul-General Julius G. Lay and Mrs. Lay.

Encouraged by the contributions we have so far received, being enabled to already give 200 worthy people a good square meal daily, we are appealing to our friends for more funds to increase this number.

A Contribution of

Mk.	10 will enable us to serve another	25 meals
" 20	" " " "	50 "
" 50	" " " "	125 "
" 100	" " " "	250 "
" 200	" " " "	500 "
" 500	" " " "	1250 "
" 1000	" " " "	2500 "

Subscriptions should be sent to the Treasurer of the American Relief Kitchen, Mr. J. G. Simon, care of the American Association of Commerce and Trade, Berlin, Friedrichstrasse 59—60.

AMERICAN EXPORTS.

American exports for the month of September 1914 amounted to 156 million Dollars as compared with 110 million Dollars for the month of August 1914. The imports for the same period were 139 million Dollars in September, as compared with 129 million in August.

In 1913 the exports for August were 218 million Dollars, and the imports were 172 million Dollars.

In the first 9 months of the current year the excess of exports over imports was 75 million Dollars, as compared with 406 million Dollars in 1913.

The exports of cotton in September 1914 were 125 million bales for a value of about 5,800,000 Dollars, as compared with 930 million bales for a value of 65 million Dollars in September of the previous year.

RECENT UNITED STATES TREASURY DECISIONS.

(T. D. 34650—G. A. 7586.)

American goods returned.

COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATIONS—"FILED WITH ENTRY".

It is not necessary under articles 570 and 571, Customs Regulations of 1908, that the oath or declaration of the owner, importer, consignee, or agent should be filed at the very instant of time that the first entry paper is filed, but it is a substantial compliance with that article if said oath is filed with the collector within a reasonable time thereafter and before the entry is liquidated or any action is taken thereon by the collector.

(T. D. 34666—G. A. 7589.)

Finality of board's decision.

1. LEGAL STATUS OF BOARD OF UNITED STATES GENERAL APPRAISERS.

By subsection 12 of section 28, tariff act of 1909, the Board of United States General Appraisers, in the trial and determination of issues arising under the tariff law, is created a court in everything but name—a court of limited jurisdiction, but within that jurisdiction its powers are made as ample as those of the United States Circuit Court.

2. FINALITY OF BOARD'S DECISION.

The decisions of the Board of United States General Appraisers, in cases where it has jurisdiction of the subject matter and the persons, are not only final and conclusive, not only presumed to be correct, but are absolutely verity when the same have not been appealed from in the manner prescribed by law, and are to be treated as such in any collateral proceeding. *Voorhees et al. v. United States Bank* (10 Pet., 449). It must be presumed by every court that when the board renders a decision with reference to the classification of merchandise it does so upon ample proof and the conclusion reached must stand as the law and the accepted as such unless appealed from and reserved in the manner prescribed by law. *Hilton's Administrators v. Jones* (159 U. S., 584).

3. CREDENCE TO BE GIVEN THE BOARD'S DECISION.

By subsection 14 of section 28, tariff act of 1909, the decision of the Board of United States General Appraisers in classification cases, when acting within its jurisdiction, is made final and conclusive upon all persons interested, except in cases appealed to the United States Court of Customs Appeals in the manner provided by law.

INQUIRIES.

(Readers of the "Bulletin" will please take notice that further information about subjects under this heading is always to be had upon application to the Secretary of the Association.)

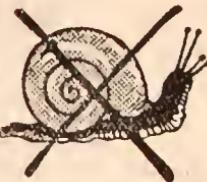
4. Well-to-do American business man, member of the Association, residing in Berlin for some years thoroughly familiar with trade conditions and well acquainted with the most important business houses throughout Germany, solicits the representation for some good article. Highest commercial and bank references, can also furnish bond or security.
5. Young English woman, of long experience and expert stenographer in English, German and French and who has been engaged in government service, would like position with American firm.
6. Export nach den U.S.A.
in Artikeln der Metallindustrie. Hamburger Importeur mit vielen Beziehungen in Nord-Amerika, ist bereit, sich für leistungsfähige Fabriken zwecks Anbahnung von Beziehungen zu betätigen, gegen entsprechenden Reisezuschuß und Provision.
9. Energetic New Yorker, wishes German concerns, which would like to be represented in the United States, to communicate with him giving full particulars. Apply W. B. 132 care of this paper.
14. Well established manufacturers' Agents in Berlin covering all Europe, open to new agencies for gents and ladies' furnishings.
15. American, member of the Association, open to agencies of American firms.
18. American, has had eleven years of general office experience, four in the mercantile and seven in the financial line, English correspondent, speaks German, highly recommended, desires position, temporary or permanent, part time or entire day.
19. American, speaking German and French, seeks good agency. Best references.
20. American manufacturers, desiring to enter the German market successfully, will find it to their advantage to communicate with American business man residing in Berlin, whose reputation in introducing American products is established.
21. Young American, speaking German, graduate University Pennsylvania, wishes secretarial or clerical position.
22. German lady teacher, 30 years in England, wishes to take pupils for English lessons.

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Publishers: The American Association of Commerce and Trade in Berlin, Friedrichstr. 59/60
Responsible for the Editorship: The Committee on Publications and Statistics.

Printers: Vereinigte Kunstanstalten J. Bargou Söhne Nachf., Berlin S. 42.

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